

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 1386 without my signature.

While I support providing assistance to public school students who may be at risk for substance use and abuse, this bill would remove the flexibility for implementing a drug testing policy. Depriving schools of authority in determining and establishing drug testing policies and practice compromises local control. All Californians across the state should share the goal of making our schools a safe, drug free environment for students to learn and thrive. However, specific drug testing policies in schools are locally determined issues. Therefore, statewide legislation is unnecessary.

Currently, if a community determines that a drug testing policy is necessary, local officials have the ability to establish the specifics of that policy. I cannot support legislation that eliminates the ability of local school districts to make decisions based on the needs and values of their community.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger